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AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE – **EXAMINING GROUP 1636**

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Commissioner for Patents

P.O. Box 1450

Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Attorney Docket No.: 021044-008020US

Client Ref. No.: P.0005.03.US.UT.C02.LE

May 2, 2005

TOWNSEND and TOWNSEND and CREW LLP

Jo Ann Honcik Dallara

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of: Michael G. Katze et

Application No.: 09/972,756

Filed: October 5, 2001

For: NOVEL SCREENING METHODS

TO IDENTIFY AGENTS THAT

SELECTIVELY INHIBIT HEPATITIS C

VIRUS REPLICATION

Customer No.: 20350

Confirmation No. 5359

Examiner:

Vogel, Nancy T.

Technology Center/Art Unit: 1636

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 CFR 1.116 EXPEDITED PROCEDURE EXAMINING

GROUP 1636

Mail Stop AF

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

In response to the Final Office Action mailed February 1, 2005, on the abovereferenced application, please enter the following amendments and remarks. The due date for response is Sunday, May 1, 2005, making the actual due date Monday, May 2, 2005. A Notice of Appeal is included herein.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 2 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on page 8 of this paper.